

# **Illinois Commerce Commission Beneficial Electrification Workshops**

## **Participation Strategy**

### **December 7, 2021 (Final)**

#### **Purpose:**

To identify strategies of the Workshop Facilitator to include input and participation from stakeholders representing a variety of perspectives in Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) Beneficial Electrification Workshops.

#### **Background:**

One of the goals of the ICC Beneficial Electrification Workshop process is to include input and participation from a wide range of stakeholders representing a variety of perspectives. In October 2021, the ICC Staff requested feedback from Workshop participants on how Workshops can include stakeholders representing environmental justice and low-income communities. Feedback was received from more than 15 organizations. The ICC Staff and Facilitator appreciate the thoughtful feedback submitted regarding stakeholder participation. Due to time and resource constraints, not all recommendations are able to be implemented in the Workshop process; however, the Facilitator will utilize the actions and strategies described in this document to encourage broad and equitable participation in Workshop meetings. The ICC Staff and Facilitator acknowledge that community-based organizations are time-constrained and are currently being asked to share feedback and views in a number of different forums beyond the Beneficial Electrification Workshops.

#### **Participation Strategies and Actions:**

##### **1. Provide Explanatory Materials**

- a. A brief Fact Sheet will be provided to interested stakeholder organizations and participants. This Fact Sheet will be posted on the ICC Beneficial Electrification Workshops webpage. This Fact Sheet will be available by January 7, 2022.
- b. A recording will be provided to interested stakeholder organizations and posted on the ICC Beneficial Electrification Workshops webpage summarizing the Illinois Electric Vehicle Act and the Workshop Plan. This recording will be available by January 7, 2022.

##### **2. Use Accessible Language**

- a. Encourage Workshop presenters to avoid using acronyms or industry jargon during presentations.
- b. Translate selected information to Spanish.

##### **3. Share Information in Advance of Meetings**

- a. Agendas (including Webex information) will be posted on the ICC website and circulated to the Workshop distribution list one (1) week in advance of each Workshop meeting.
- b. Meeting presentations will be posted on the ICC website. The Facilitator will request presentations be provided in advance of Workshop meetings, in order to circulate to the distribution list. In the case where there are delays in presentations being provided, those presentations will be posted after the Workshop meeting.
- c. Written feedback and comments received following each meeting will be posted on the ICC website.
- d. All Workshop meeting information will be posted on a dedicated webpage on the ICC website: [Beneficial Electrification Workshops 2021-2022 \(illinois.gov\)](https://www.illinois.gov/beneficial-electrification-workshops)

**4. Post Meeting Recordings**

- a. Beginning with the December 15, 2021 meeting, workshop meetings will be recorded, with the recording link posted on the ICC website.

**5. Offer Multiple Opportunities for Input**

- a. During Workshop meetings, time for additional questions and discussion will be provided.
- b. Workshop participants are invited to share comments and feedback after each meeting, with written comments due within two (2) weeks. Comments and feedback will be available to all Workshop participants for review on the ICC website.

**6. Hold Equity-Focused Meetings (January and February)**

- a. Equity will be a component of all ICC Workshops agendas; however, two (2) equity-focused meetings will also be scheduled to inform and request feedback from participants on Beneficial Electrification that may not have the bandwidth to participate in longer Workshop meetings.
- b. Equity-focused meetings will be held in the evening (6:00 – 7:30 pm).
- c. Final agendas for equity-focused meetings will be circulated ten (10) days in advance of each meeting to provide additional time for outreach.
- d. Specific questions will be included on agendas that can be posed to meeting participants to request feedback.
- e. There will be an opportunity for written comments and feedback to be shared within two (2) weeks following each meeting. Comments and feedback will be available to all Workshop participants for review on the ICC website.

**7. Offer Co-Hosted Meetings**

- a. The Facilitator will conduct outreach to collaborate with existing community-based organizations that have built trust with community members to facilitate virtual meeting(s) with the purpose of requesting feedback on Beneficial Electrification that can inform the utilities' Beneficial Electrification Plans.

**8. Conduct Outreach to Interested Organizations**

- a. The Facilitator will conduct outreach to meet with recommended organizations and solicit feedback to inform the utilities' Beneficial Electrification plans, including, but not limited to:
  - i. Blacks in Green (BIG)
  - ii. Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
  - iii. Elevated Chicago
  - iv. Equiticity
  - v. Faith in Place
  - vi. Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition
  - vii. Income Qualified EE Accountability Committee Leadership Teams (North and South)
  - viii. Jobs to Move America
  - ix. Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO)
  - x. Transportation Equity Network (TEN)
  - xi. United Auto Workers
  - xii. We Will Chicago's Environmental, Climate and Energy pillar research team and Transportation and Infrastructure pillar research team